

Leo Carrillo State Park



Our Mission

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

GRAY DAVIS
Governor

MARY D. NICHOLS
Secretary for Resources

RUTH COLEMAN
Acting Director, California State Parks



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CALIFORNIA For information call:
STATE PARKS (800)777-0369
P.O. Box 942896 (916)653-6995, outside the U.S.
Sacramento, CA (888)877-5378, TTY
94296-0001 (888)877-5379, without TTY

www.parks.ca.gov

Leo Carrillo State Park
35000 W. Pacific Coast Highway
Malibu, CA 90265
(818)880-0350 • (805)488-1827
www.csp-angeles.com

*Leo Carrillo State
Park is an inviting
treasure trove of
tidepools, offshore reefs,
canyon streams
and challenging
backcountry.*

Leo Carrillo State Park—an inviting treasure trove of tidepools, offshore reefs, canyon streams and challenging backcountry—is located in the Santa Monica Mountains 35 miles northwest of Santa Monica. Its variety of recreational activities is limited only by the visitor's imagination. From traditional beach recreation like sunbathing, fishing, whale watching and swimming to more strenuous pastimes such as surfing, hiking, diving, windsurfing,

kayaking and camping, Leo Carrillo is a haven for adventurers.



Leo Carrillo

WHO WAS LEO CARRILLO?

Leo Carrillo State Park is named after a star of Broadway, television and film. Descended from prominent early California families—his great grandfather was Carlos Antonio de Jesus Carrillo, a governor of California in the last years of Mexican rule—Mr. Carrillo's talent lay in entertainment. He began as a vaudeville comedian, and by the late 1920s had begun a prolific film career lasting well into the 1960s. One of his more recognizable

roles was the comic sidekick in the television series "The Cisco Kid." Leo Carrillo served 14 years on the State Beaches and Parks Commission and was instrumental in the state's acquisition of much of the property between Malibu Lagoon and Point Mugu, including the area named after him.

HISTORY

Archaeologists believe that the Chumash people, superb artisans who excelled at basketry and elaborate cave and rock art, lived in the area as long ago as 6,000 B.C. They enjoyed games, singing, dancing, gambling and trading with other tribes. Their plank boats carried them to the Channel Islands to fish and gather lobsters, mussels and abalone. In the late 1700s, Spaniards settled the area, forcing dramatic changes on the Chumash and their way of life. Native American labor built Mission San Buenaventura, but the regimented mission life and the effects of European diseases took a toll on them. After inhabiting this land for thousands of years, the Chumash had nearly disappeared by 1920. Today many Chumash descendants still celebrate and share their vibrant cultural traditions.

THE LAND

The Mediterranean climate and varied topography support chaparral, coastal sage scrub, riparian woodland, wildflowers

and coastal strand plant communities. Growing in higher inland regions in dense brush, fire-adapted chaparral areas include chamise, manzanita, ceanothus and scrub oak. Lower elevations are home to the sage scrub plant

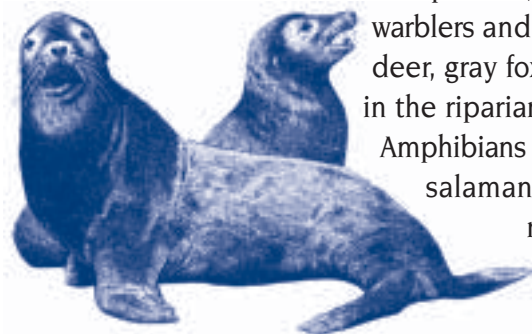


Meadows and oaks invite quite contemplation

community—prickly pear cactus, buckwheat, giant coreopsis, California sagebrush and bush sunflower. Riparian plant communities —California bay, willow, mule fat, black walnut and sycamore trees —grow in the cool, moist environment along Arroyo Sequit.

Rabbits, bobcats, hawks, sea lions, dolphins, whales, harbor seals and tidepool animals thrive here, along with squirrels and scrub jays. Hikers often see acorn woodpeckers, horned owls, quail, warblers and red-tailed hawks. Mule deer, gray foxes and raccoons forage in the riparian woodland at night.

Amphibians and reptiles include salamanders, toads, lizards, rattlesnakes, and gopher and king snakes.



Sea lions



Small coves await discovery

THE SEA

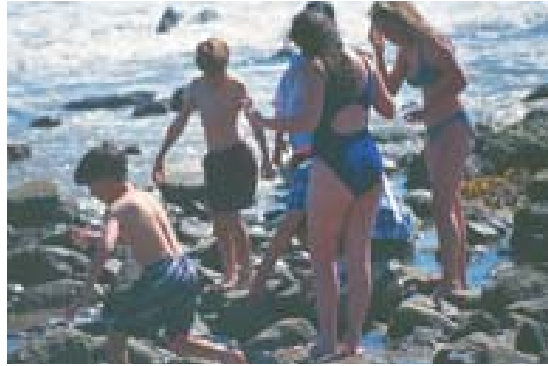
Small beach coves in this year-round paradise offer privacy and ocean access for anglers, divers, surfers, wildlife watchers and beachcombers.

Fishing—Anglers over age 16 need a current license to fish for kelp bass, surf perch, sheephead, halibut, thresher shark, corbina and white sea bass.

Diving—The clear waters of the park make it one of the best scuba diving and snorkeling areas in Southern California. Dive with the proper equipment and training, and never dive alone. Ask a lifeguard about ocean conditions and the best diving areas.

Surfing—Swim and surf only in areas with lifeguards, and go with a friend. Sequit Point and nearby Staircase and County Line beaches are especially popular. Swimming, boogie boarding and sunbathing are also favorite activities. Know your limits and learn about weather and ocean conditions. If you get caught in a rip current that causes

you to drift from shore, do not swim against it. Instead, swim parallel to the shore until you are out of the current, then swim back towards shore.

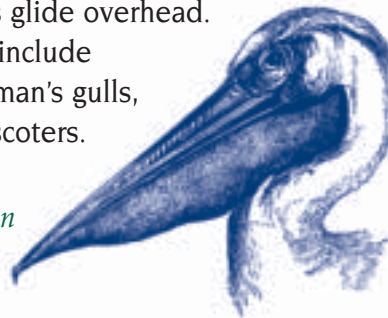


Tide pools—Near the mouth of Arroyo Sequit, tide pools are exposed twice daily at low tide. You may see limpets, turban snails, anemones, sea slugs, sea urchins, sea stars, mussels, tube worms, algae, surfgrass and kelp beds. Tide pools are fragile—do not remove any organism, not even shells. Return rocks to their original position to protect creatures living beneath them.

Marine mammals—Gray whales migrating down the coast venture in close to the beach. Pilot whales, orcas, dolphins, harbor seals and sea lions also inhabit the area.

Sea birds—Pelicans, gulls, grebes and cormorants glide overhead. Winter species include migratory Heerman's gulls, loons and surf scoters.

Pelican



OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Hiking

Hikers have a choice of gentle or more energetic walks. Yellow Hill Fire Trail, suitable for all ages, offers panoramic views of the beach, and on a clear day, you can see Anacapa, Santa Catalina and Santa Cruz Islands. The steeper Nicholas Flat Trail meanders through wildflowers and various plant communities to a serene pond.

Camping

The Canyon Campground has 135 family sites, each with a table and fire ring. Restrooms and coin-operated hot showers are nearby. Hike-and-bike campsites are located near campsite #1. The Group Campground at the back of the canyon accommodates up to 50 people. It has picnic tables, two barbecue pits, and restrooms with coin-operated hot showers. Camping reservations are recommended from May through October and on holiday weekends. Call (800) 444-7275 or make reservations online at www.parks.ca.gov.

Interpretive programs

Campfire programs, Junior Ranger programs for children ages 7-12 and nature walks are offered from Memorial Day through Labor Day. A small visitor center at North Beach is open on the weekends. For information, call the ranger station at (805) 488-1827.

ACCESSIBLE FEATURES

A paved, mostly level path parallels the beach. Campsites are level but have no accessible features. Call the park for details or to reserve a beach wheelchair.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- Watch out for rattlesnakes, ticks and poison oak, and stay away from seals and sea lions.
- Stay on the trails and hike with plenty of water.
- Use caution when fishing from slippery rocks during a rising tide or big surf.
- Ask the lifeguard or park ranger about ocean conditions.
- Only vehicles with less than eight-foot clearance can enter the North Beach parking lot.

NEARBY STATE PARKS

- Point Mugu State Park, 15 miles south of Oxnard (818) 880-0350
- Robert H. Meyer Memorial State Beach, 10 miles north of Malibu (818) 880-0350

This park is supported in part through a nonprofit organization. For more information contact: Santa Monica Mountains Natural History Association
9000 W. Pacific Coast Hwy
Malibu, CA 90265 • (805) 488-0578

